

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 19th January 2020

Contest Results

Results of the IRTS 80 metres New Year's Day counties contest have been published. Band conditions on 80 metres were good for the first hour of this short contest, but went downhill fairly rapidly after that. Stations in 28 EI and GI counties were active: Cavan, Longford, Louth and Monaghan were the only counties with no recorded QSOs. 47 contest logs were received, which included 34 logs from EI and GI stations along with 13 logs from overseas stations. See www.irts.ie/results for the full results.

Amateur Station Licence Exam

The next Amateur Station Licence Exam will be held on Thursday 7th May 2020 in the ComReg Offices in Dublin and at other centres if warranted by the numbers. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Thursday, 23rd April 2020. See www.irts.ie/exam for full details on how to enter for this exam. This page also includes links to the exam syllabus, the Course Guide and other study material. Exam candidates who feel they could benefit from assistance with any aspect of the syllabus are invited to contact Robert Brandon EI5KH, Secretary of IRTS, who will try to put them in touch with a radio club in their area that may be able to help. Robert's contact details are on the IRTS web site.

Cork Radio Club

The January meeting of Cork Radio Club will be held on Wednesday the 22nd at the usual venue, Carrigtwohill Community Centre at 2000. Subject to demand, the club will run classes for the Amateur Station Licence Examination which is being held on May 7th and enrolment for the course will take place at this club meeting. The classes will run weekly and full details will be available on enrolment night or by ringing 087-6290574 or by email to "info /at/ corkradioclub /dot/ ie"

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will be held at The Park Hotel, Clonmel on Tuesday 21st January at 8pm. This is the most important

meeting of the calendar year and all members are requested to attend. Short Wave Listeners and new members are in particular very welcome. The election of club officers will take place as well as making plans for the coming year. For more information about Tipperary Amateur Radio Group you can visit the club website at www.ei7trg.ie or contact club PRO Ronan EI4KN at QTHR.

Shannon Basin Radio Club AGM

The Shannon Basin Radio Club recently held its AGM. There was a large attendance in Roscommon and the club welcomed several new members.

The newly elected committee for the club are as follows. Chairperson: Pat EI9HX, Secretary Brian: EI8IU, Treasurers: Pat EI9HX and Anthony EI6GGB, PRO and Club Rep: Anthony EI6GGB, QSL Manager: Anthony EI6GGB.

The club thanks the outgoing committee and looks forward to taking part in many events throughout 2020. Thanks also go to IRTS President EI4HH who also attended and gave a very interesting talk. A great night was had by all, helped in no small part by the fine food which was served at the meeting. Please see www.sbrc.ie for upcoming club events and meetings.

The club holds two weekly nets, 2 meters on Thursday nights at 20:00 on 145.350 And 80 meters on Wednesday nights at 20:00 on 3.650 plus or minus qrm. Everyone is welcome to join in these nets. Finally, the club would like to wish all amateurs and SWLs a very happy new year.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

A reminder that the January meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday the 27th of January in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8:00 p.m. sharp. A club committee meeting will be held before the main meeting at 7:00 p.m. IRTS President Jim Holohan EI4HH and Vice-President Pat O'Connor EI9HX will be in attendance at our main meeting. All club members are asked to attend, and new members are as always very welcome also.

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group wish to also remind all listeners that are intending to book their hotel rooms for the IRTS AGM 2020 weekend in April 2020 to book them as soon as possible please. Gala Dinner tickets are now available from John EI7IG and on the IRTS webpage. Details about the weekend including room prices and dinner tickets can be found at <https://agm2020cw.blogspot.com>

For anyone that wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to “southeasternarg /at/ gmail /dot/ com” or please feel free to come along to any of their meetings. You can check out their website www.searg.ie and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

DX News

The Tunisian licencing authorities have announced that they have commenced issuing personal callsigns instead of the heretofore club callsigns. This should result in a lot more activity from Tunisia. The following calls are among those that can now be found on the air 3V8HB, 3V8MN and 3V1MB.

Dirk WA4DT will operate as HR9/WA4DT from Roatan Island off the coast of Honduras until 2nd February. He will be on CW and FT8. Roatan counts as NA-057 for the Islands on the Air award.

Melvin W8MV will be active from the Caribbean island of Montserrat from 26th January – 2nd February. He will be on the CW on the HF bands using the callsign VP2MCV. Logs will be uploaded to Logbook of The World.

Russell G5XW will be QRV holiday-style as C5XW in the Gambia from 28th January – 7th February. Activity will be mainly SSB on 40 – 17m and possibly some CW. QSLs go via the RSGB bureau.

Items for inclusion in next week’s Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to “newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie” for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Mark EI6HPB on 086 355 2370.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday’s bulletin. If you currently receive a copy of the IRTS Radio News Bulletin by email as a news reader and wish to modify your address, please inform the editor in order to have it changed on the news readers mailing list.

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